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FURY OVER FOUL DOGS

Council to get tough after graves and pitch reports

By Samantha McGregor

A COUNCIL is warning dog owners they could face legal action – after pets were seen fouling graves in Southam Road Cemetery, Banbury.

Councillors say the problem is the worst it has ever been in the town

Another area, "causing most concern" is Horton View Playing Field.

The council says people are allowing dogs to foul graves, footpaths and grassed areas, while the sports pitch at Horton View had to be cleared of more than a dozen dog faeces before a match could go ahead.

Banbury Town Council is now stepping up its park ranger patrols.

Town council staff will also work with officers from Cherwell District Council, who have the power to issue £50 on-the-spot fines and take legal action.

Kieron Mallon, leader of Banbury Town Council, said: "The problem is worse now than at any time before.

"It is also a serious health issue and people, especially children, can become very ill through contact with dog faeces.

"We have tried banning dogs from the playing field but owners ignored the signs. Then we installed dog waste bins in the hope that owners would clear up after their dogs – but that also failed.

"On Friday, October 11, our contractors cleared 15 deposits off the football pitches in the morning and the same number in the afternoon.

"The following day they cleared a further 15 deposits, so that the youth football matches could be played."

Mr Mallon also urged residents who back on to Horton View playing field to report anyone who lets their dog foul the field.

Colin Clarke, chairman of the council's general services committee, said: "While Horton View is the worst area at the moment, the problem occurs to a lesser degree in other places too.

"Southam Road Cemetery is bad. Visitors have to clear dog mess from relatives' graves — and parks and play areas in town are also blighted by 'couldn't care less' dog owners.

"We have tried the softly-softly approach, but it looks as though prosecutions will be the only way to stop the problem. I appeal to all dog owners to ensure their pets do not foul public places."

There are 126 dog waste bins across Banbury. It costs £21,000 a year to empty them.

Cherwell District Council also provides free poop bags, which are available at the PDSA shop in Church Walk, Banbury.

Banbury Town Council's Kieron Mallon, with dog warning sign

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Brother tells of shock after hearing on the radio of Russian arrest at sea

Greenpeace activist held

Arrested: Phil Ball

STEVE Ball's brother, Phil, was wearing lots of warm clothing when he got dropped off at a bus stop to go on a three-week trip.

But he would not reveal which cold climate he was heading for.

Days later, Mr Ball got the shock of his life when he discovered Phil was one of the Greenpeace protesters being held in Russia on piracy charges.

Mr Ball has now told how his younger brother – one of the "Arctic 30" who were part of a protest against energy giant Gazprom, which is poised to drill for the first oil from Arctic waters – is trying to stay strong, despite facing 15 years in a Russian jail.

Father-of-three Phil, 42, from Chipping Norton, was among 28 activists and two journalists aboard the Greenpeace boat Arctic Sunrise, who were detained at gunpoint by Russian authorities after allegedly trying to seize an oil platform on September 18.

The 30, who hail from 18 nations, have appeared in Murmansk's Lenin district court

By Oliver Evans

but have been refused bail and have been detained for two months in the city, pending trial.

If convicted of piracy, they could face up to 15 years in one of Russia's notorious jails.

Mr Ball, 44, also from Chipping Norton, said: "I took Phil to Oxford bus station about ten days before his arrest.

"He had packed for cold weather and was boarding a bus to London, but I did not know where he was going.

"Then, I heard on the radio that Greenpeace protesters had been held in the Arctic. Straight away I thought 'Oh my God, that's my brother'.

"I learned more about the 'armed intervention' and saw coverage of a pistol being pointed down a camera lens and realised that gun could be pointing at him."

His incarcerated brother is a nature photographer and film maker who has been credited on David Attenborough films.

The Greenpeace activitst has two sons, aged eight and seven, and a three-year-old daughter. He grew up in Chipping Norton, and attended The Marlborough School, Woodstock.

Mr Ball said: "While Phil seemed quite 'down' in his earliest letters, he seemed stronger in the latest one. He was very keen we don't just get them back and forget why they have all went out there – to highlight the damage which is being wreaked on the Arctic.

"He also talks about the terrible food and basic conditions and says he is allowed out once a day for an hour to exercise alone in a yard.

"He runs about as much as he can in that time and says that if he is lucky, he might shout and hear a shout back from another prisoner."

Mr Ball is in a cell with two Russian men who can only speak a few words of English.

"He talks of desperately missing cuddling his little girl and says the thing keeping him going is the knowledge of the support from outside," added Mr Ball.

Ingrid Royale, from Oxford Greenpeace, said: "Phil cares passionately about the environment and his family and it is very sad that he has been detained. We just want him home safely."

Mr Ball added: "Our mum, Ruth, has visited the Foreign Office with Phil's partner, and we are being kept up to speed."

The group's attempt to scale the Gazprom platform to protest at oil exploration in the Arctic

Picture: Greenpeace

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If this may be of interest to someone you know, please tell them about us. The lunches are great fun and there is no membership fee or obligation to attend regularly.

A group protesting at the closure of the ACE Children's Centre were able to make an appeal directly to Prime Minister David Cameron when he was spotted shopping in Chipping Norton market place

Cameron debates the issue of the county's threatened children's centres as he is caught shopping in Chipping Norton town centre

Protesters in plea to Prime Minister

THE Prime Minister said he planned to hold talks with the leader of Oxfordshire County Council after backing protest calls to save children's centres.

It comes after David Cameron, who is also MP for Witney, was confronted in Chipping Norton over the weekend by campaigners angry at the prospect of their local centre closing.

The county council is considering closing 37 children's centres to help plug a £61m

By Damian Fantato

black hole after a cut in Government funding.

This is in addition to the £74m it already has to cut by 2018 and the £127m of savings already made between 2010 and 2013.

Mr Cameron said: "The main point to make about this issue is that Oxfordshire County Council has not yet made any decisions regarding its budget for 2014-15. I made this point when I spoke with children's centre campaigners in Chipping Norton on Saturday.

"I shall continue to follow the consultation process closely and I will do what I can to support my constituents in their efforts to keep these important facilities open."

A spokesman for Mr Cameron said he was seeking a meeting with Ian Hudspeth, the leader of the county council, to "discuss the issue in greater detail".

The centres – which offer support to families of children under five – are used by 18,000 people a year and employ more than 260 staff.

They were set up to try to ensure all children have the best possible start in life. Parents can get help and advice on child and family health, parenting, money, training and employment.

Mother-of-two Gemma Walter, who uses the town's children's centre, said: "The children's centre is a lifeline for me. We rely on them for emotional support and it is a safe place for my children to play."

Emma Taylor, who launched the Save Oxfordshire's Children's Centres campaign, said she hoped the meeting could lead to a resolution.

She said: "I think it is brilliant he is trying to meet with the county council's leader and I hope he can find a way forward.

"Hopefully between them they can thrash something out and save children's centres across Oxfordshire."

Three *Facebook* groups have been set up in protest at the proposals – Save Oxfordshire's Children's Centres, Save Our Children's Centres: Oxfordshire and Chipping Norton's campaign, Save the Ace Centre.

So far more than 1,700 people have signed up to them.

Mr Hudspeth said: "I am always happy to meet with any of my local MPs so we can make sure we get the best for the residents of Oxfordshire.

"We have got to save an additional £61m, which means we have to look at every area to find out where savings can be made. No decision has been taken yet. So far, everyone is very clear that children's centres are a high priority for them. However, no one is coming forward and saying what should not be a priority and where savings should be made."

A meeting on cuts to county council services will be held in Witney on Thursday night, where Mr Hudspeth will ask the public for suggestions on how it can save £61m.

InBRIEF

Mosque leaflet shock

■ A MAN hoping to create a mosque in Chipping Norton said he was shocked after receiving a "nasty" leaflet through his door.

Town councillor Tahirul Hasan was set to convert a shop in Hitchman's Mews into a mosque after securing planning permission in February. But the shop's landlord, George Wissinter, received threatening phone calls

Now Mr Hasan has received a leaflet urging people not to re-elect Mr Cameron and warning residents about the "dangers" of allowing a mosque to be built.

New store's jobs

■ **MORE than 30 new jobs have been created as a new Poundworld store opens in Castle Quay shopping centre today. It becomes the second Poundworld store in the town, with the other at Banbury Cross Retail Park.**

Arts funding boost

■ YOUNG people in Bretch Hill are to benefit from £23,000 of funding for arts projects. Sanctuary Housing has given the cash to the Oxfordshire Youth Arts Partnership at The Hill Centre. The partnership will help youngsters develop work, which could include transforming the public space around the centre, music and food festivals. A spokesman said: "We help young people to get their voices heard, meet new people and to make a difference."

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Cloudy2Clear service the Oxford, Banbury & Abingdon areas and Trevor is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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Police face more historic cases after high-profile scandals

Police tell of rising tide of sex abuse reports

REPORTS of sexual offences have risen sharply in Oxfordshire – with the increase attributed to high-profile cases including the Bullfinch trial and Jimmy Savile scandal.

Thames Valley Police recorded nearly a 50 per cent rise from April to September, compared to the same period last year.

The force said high-profile cases had led to more people coming forward with historic allegations of abuse.

Recorded sexual offences rose to 353 from April to September, compared to 242 in 2011 and 244 in 2012. The figure for April to September this year included 198 reports of rape.

Oxford Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Centre service manager Natalie Brook said the Savile scandal gave many "confidence to seek support".

She said: "Because they were being believed, it had given them the confidence to report it – that their reports were taken seriously."

More than 500 people were now

By Oliver Evans

thought to have been abused by TV star Savile, who died in 2011.

Ms Brook said the conviction in June of seven members of an Oxford child sex gang, following the Operation Bullfinch trial, could have also led to an increase in reports.

Domestic and sexual abuse co-ordinator Liz Jones said Savile had impacted on an historically under-reported crime.

She said: "It is positive that people are coming forward.

"The Jimmy Savile case had an impact and gave people the confidence that they would be listened to if they spoke about it.

"The organisations within the criminal justice system want people to come forward and give a positive experience of the criminal justice system."

This experience "on the whole" is "very supportive" she said, adding: "I don't think we are seeing an increase in sexual crime."

A Thames Valley Police spokesman said it had been a "challenging year" as a "result of highly-publicised incidents and individuals".

She said: "We have seen an increase in people coming forward to report crimes that happened to them in earlier life and we continue to encourage any victim of crime to come forward.

"We treat all these allegations with the utmost seriousness and a number of investigations are continuing."

Police and Crime Commissioner Anthony Stansfeld said many forces had seen an increase in historic sexual abuse cases because of "publicity around some high-profile incidents".

He said: "The rise is a good indicator that more victims have confidence in the criminal justice system."

When Mr Stansfeld was asked if the latest statistics supported the case for a sexual referral centre for Oxfordshire, he declined to comment on the issue.

● National Rape Crisis Freephone helpline 0808 802 9999.

ABOVE: Oxford Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Centre service manager Natalie Brook

LEFT: Domestic and sexual abuse co-ordinator Liz Jones

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Banbury Cake letters

Sir, Thank you for your apology/clarification of your report about the Ofsted Inspection of Orchard Fields School, Banbury.

For the sake of completeness I should like to point out that there is also good news about the school, and your support would be appreciated...

The school was not judged to have serious weaknesses because of the recording of racist incidents but because statutory guidance had not been followed over the exclusion of two pupils. This error automatically requires the school to be judged inadequate even though the report overall shows the school to have made significant improvements. The error has now been rectified and the key stage 2 test results this year show dramatic improvements.

The inspectors' comments about recording of racist incidents are a tiny part of the report.

During the two days of the inspection the inspectors saw no evidence of racist behaviour and indeed reported that behaviour in the school is mainly good.

At Orchard Fields School in 2012/13 there were fifteen incidents when a child called another child by an inappropriate name referring to the colour of their skin or ethnic origin. The majority of the children were infants (five to seven year olds). They used the inappropriate name once only were corrected and the behaviour was not repeated. There are 415 children on roll. There have been no incidents this school year. There is no legal requirement to report such incidents and many schools do not do so.

The school should be praised for promoting good race relations and tackling inappropriate comments from a small number of very young children who you now agree cannot at their age be regarded as racist, merely as requiring guidance.

Please note my job title is Chair rather than Chairman of Governors.

John Christie
Chair of Governors
Orchard Fields Community School
Banbury

Pupils root for Rotary club's polio campaign

Pictured with the 500 crocus bulbs are Sibford School choir members Emily Sloan, Henry Jackson-Wells and Tom Smith

THIS week pupils from Sibford School, plan to plant 500 purple crocus bulbs around its music school to raise awareness for the End Polio Now campaign – being run by the town's Rotary club

Next February, when the bulbs are in full bloom, pupils plan to perform in *The Crocus Concert*, alongside pupils from Banbury Academy, Chenderit School and The Warriner School.

A second concert, involving youngsters from Blessed George Napier, Bloxham School, Frank Wise School and North Oxfordshire Academy, will take place the following month.

Ali Bromhall, community development officer at the Quaker school, said: "We were approached by the Rotary Club of Banbury, asking if we would help them to raise awareness of the incredible work being undertaken internationally to eradicate polio. We were delighted to give our backing to this campaign."

The purple crocus has become the appeal's symbol because it's the same colour as the dye on children's fingers to show they have been immunised against polio.

Headteacher jets out on Far Eastern quest

Showcase for school

By Katriona Ormiston

THE headteacher of a Banbury boarding school flew out to China last week to showcase the benefits of boarding school education.

Sibford School's Michael Goodwin was one of 20 headteachers in the UK chosen by the British Council to go on the Government international marketing campaign.

Mr Goodwin will be in the Guangzhou region for a week for media interviews, panel discussions, visiting local schools and speaking about the benefits of the UK boarding system for Chinese pupils.

His visit follows Banbury MP Sir Tony Baldry's recent visit to Xishuangbanna, in the Chinese province of Yunnan, to strengthen Cherwell's link with the district.

Sibford School was set up in 1842 as a co-educational boarding school for the children of Quaker families.

It now has 60 boarders, of which around seven per cent come from China.

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RAIL operator Chiltern Railways has been named top for train punctuality for the eleventh period running, according to Network Rail.

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Teachers travel to Oxford for protest rally over pay and pensions

Strike forces schools to close

The teachers' march sets off in Oxford, after a rally at Bonn Square OX62746

A HOST of schools across the county were forced to shut last Thursday when 500 teachers travelled to Oxford to protest against changes to the education system.

Almost 150 of the county's schools were closed or partially closed as teachers from the NUT and NASWUT unions went on strike.

After hearing speeches from teachers and parents, they marched from Bonn Square along Queen Street, into Cornmarket, and then down St Michael's Street, chanting "Michael Gove it's time to go".

Many passers-by, including a number of teenagers off school because of the strike, stopped to watch and take pictures of the

By Sophie Scott

march. Some people waved support from nearby shops and businesses.

Teachers across the South East were on strike over pay, pensions and work conditions.

Kate Douglas, who has two school-aged children, backed the strike.

She said: "I don't want to see teachers compete against each other to get high exam results at the expense of a rounded education for my kids.

"I don't want to see drama, art, music, design and technology cut. These are the things that make my kids enjoy school."

County teachers were also concerned over plans that would see them working until they were 68.

One teacher, Emma Garden, said: "I have been teaching for 20 years and I have never been so angry about the decisions that are being made."

Primary teacher Matt Cuttle said: "I am not going to be able to do this job well at that age.

"Teaching is not a young person's job. You need experience, but you also need energy."

Deb Williams, a secondary school teacher, added: "Teaching as a profession is being destroyed."

Colleague Clair Cross said: "I work in early years education and I want to put out the message that Michael Gove is making the early years education academic and squeezing out free play time. What I find is that children are getting more tired because of that."

NUT local secretary Gawain Little said: "We were really pleased with the turnout.

"It showed the strength of feeling from teachers and that they care passionately about education."

Other Oxfordshire teachers travelled to London to take part in another rally.

A Department for Education spokesman said: "The NUT and NASUWT have tried to create as much disruption for pupils and parents as possible.

"It is disappointing that the NUT and NASUWT are striking over the Government's measures to allow headteachers to pay good teachers more.

"In a recent poll, 61 per cent of respondents supported linking teachers' pay to performance and 70 per cent either opposed the strikes or believed that teachers should not be allowed to strike at all."

InBRIEF

Horse reunited after six years

■ A STARVING pregnant horse has been reunited with her owner – six years after being stolen. The heavily pregnant mare was so thin that her spine and hip bones could be seen and she was infested with lice and worms. She was rescued from a field in Bloxham along with an emaciated foal which was close to death. Both ponies survived. The pregnant horse gave birth to a healthy foal and a microchip scan revealed she had an owner. Her owner was stunned to be reunited with his pony, who was just eight months old when she was stolen back in 2006.

Boost for charity

■ **SHOPPERS raised £430 for a county charity that supports people affected by the death of a baby. Live harp music and a second-hand sale helped raised the cash at the Banbury branch of Sainsbury's, which nominated the Oxfordshire Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity this year. The charity wants to raise cash for a baby resuscitation unit for the Horton General Hospital.**

iPad is stolen

■ AN iPad was stolen after raiders forced their way into a home in Queensway, in the Easington, area between Friday, October 11, and the Saturday.

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InBRIEF

Firefighters free trapped driver

■ A 36-year-old man was rescued from his car by firefighters on Saturday morning. Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service was called to the A361 Williamscot Hill, north of Banbury, at around 10.20am where they found the man trapped in his car, which was on its side. He was taken to Banbury's Horton General Hospital with arm and back injuries.

LEFT: Sam Faria with a gearbox cluster

RIGHT: Working on the electrics in the engine bay of a Mini are Craig Eaton, Sam Faria and Justin Branton

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■ Mechanics' hi-tech aids

College's new £2m workshop

A NEW £2m training centre for budding mechanics will officially open its doors tomorrow.

MP Sir Tony Baldry will unveil the new motor vehicle training centre at the Banbury campus of Bicester and Banbury College.

Gone is the small 1970s-style workshop and instead students will be learning skills in a modern facility fitted with industry-standard equipment, MOT testing bays, diagnostic tools, and electric car charging points.

The motor centre is part of a £9.5m investment programme at the college site in Broughton Road, Banbury.

By Sam McGregor

The final stage, a £4m creative media production suite is expected to open before Christmas. It comes two years after the college opened its Academy of Creative Arts following a £3.5m refurbishment in 2011.

The motor facility currently has about 20 students but it will be able to double in size and offer study for full-time students, apprentices and secondary school pupils following a vocational route.

Principal Rose Turner said: "This is an exciting development in the provision of vocational training in the Banbury area.

"We have made a significant investment in these new facilities to offer students the very best grounding for a career in the motor vehicle industry.

"We know that our young people need the right learning environment in which to develop the technical and softer skills that employers demand.

"In the coming months we will be launching a new learning company from the centre, offering MOT testing to external customers.

"This will give students real work experience as they complete their qualifications, providing them with a competitive advantage when it comes to securing employment.

"We are also keen to strengthen our links with local garages to increase the motor vehicle apprenticeship programme offered in the local area."

Courses on offer will train youngsters for jobs at car dealerships, body repair and fast-fit centres, vehicle parts, leasing and renting.

Stuart Briscoe, a level two motor vehicle maintenance and repair student, said: "The way you learn on this course is really hands-on. Now, being in the new motor vehicle centre, is fantastic. It is bright and modern and has the all space you need."

The college has a long-term aspiration to move all facilities to the south side of Broughton Road. The north side would then be sold for housing.

There is an open event at the college on Wednesday, November 6, between 4pm and 7pm, for people to see the facilities for themselves.

To register view ocvc.ac.uk

● Next month, Oxford & Cherwell Valley College which has campuses in Banbury and Bicester, as well as Oxford city centre and Blackbird Leys, will be reorganised to become Banbury and Bicester College and the City of Oxford College.

Bid to cut the 'bilking' bill

Over five years, £237,000 of forecourt fuel has been stolen

By Ben Wilkinson

FUEL worth nearly a quarter of a million pounds has been stolen from the county's petrol pumps over the last five years.

Police figures, obtained under a Freedom of Information Act request, show that thieves targeted petrol pumps 4,665 times between January 2009 and August this year.

The criminals made off without paying for petrol and diesel worth a total £237,776.

The statistics show police are getting on top of the crime – known by police as "bilking" – after the crime rate fell 34.5 per cent from 1,049 fuel thefts in 2009 to 687 last year.

But one petrol station boss, Martin Townsend, from a Tesco Express site, said fuel thefts remained a threat.

He said they were still happening at his station – with about ten or 12 thieves targeting the garage every month.

He said: "It has been pretty steady here. I don't think there has been either a great increase or decrease."

Jonathan Fraser, another local petrol station manager manager, said that while the number of thefts had fallen, the rising price of fuel meant bilking was still hurting traders.

He said: "We have seen a decrease of late, but at the same time any drive-off is a bit of a kick in the teeth for us because of the high expense of fuel.

"As prices have gone up, we have to pay more – just like the consumer has to pay more."

But he said the police seemed to be effectively fighting fuel thieves.

He said: "What we have found of late is that the police have been quite proactive.

"There seems to be quite a shift in their focus, which means that it looks like there are fewer opportunities to drive off without paying."

Fuel thieves are known to steal number plates to use while filling up, so they cannot be tracked on CCTV.

Police figures show there were 1,891 thefts of vehicle number plates in Oxfordshire between January 2009 and the end of August this year. Plates were stolen 468 times in 2009 and 374 in 2012.

Thames Valley Police also use Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras to record number plates and flag up suspicious or stolen plates to petrol station staff.

A Thames Valley Police spokesman said: "We will continue to work closely with local businesses to advise them on the best ways they can increase their security to help make it harder for offenders get away with committing these types of offences."

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How to share the cost of commuting

COMMUTERS are being encouraged to join Oxfordshire's lift sharing scheme.

Oxfordshire County Council say people can save more than £1,900 a year by joining Oxfordshire Liftshare.

According to the council, 9,667 have signed up to Oxfordshire Liftshare and there are more than 8,000 people sharing regular journeys to and from work.

David Nimmo Smith

Since the scheme began in 2010, more than 9,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide have been cut from vehicle emissions and the scheme was promoted by the council with a special Car Share Week.

Council transport chief David Nimmo Smith said: "The number of people car sharing so far is encouraging. Car Share Week is an ideal time to look into it if you haven't already.

"Some people can save thousands of pounds a year just through sharing their journey to work with another person.

"There are no obligations involved in signing up, and members can use the service as often as they like – from one-off journeys to daily use."

Liftshare founder Ali Clabburn said: "We don't want people to see sharing a lift as a compromise in the way they travel but as an economically and environmentally sensible option." See: oxfordshireliftshare.com

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InCOURT

Verdicts from magistrates courts around the county

■ **ANDREW LOFTUS**, 43, of Middleton Road, Banbury, admitted assault by beating in McKeevor Place, Banbury, on August 23, and possessing cocaine, a Class-A drug, on August 24. Given a 12-month conditional discharge and fined £35. Told to pay a £20 victims' surcharge and £35 costs.

■ **ERNEST MURAWSKI**, 27, of Albert Street, Banbury, admitted causing criminal damage to the glazed shop front door of Katharine House charity shop worth £420 on February 1. Community order made with 60 hours of unpaid work and told to pay £420 compensation, a £60 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **DAVID CRUTCH**, 26, of London Road, Chipping Norton, admitted taking a Vauxhall Zafira without consent in Chipping Norton, drink- driving, driving without a licence and driving without insurance in Woodstock Road on July 12. Had 70mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, above the legal limit of 35mg. Given a two-year driving ban. Community order made with 60 hours of unpaid work. Told to pay a £60 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **MARK OWENS**, 54, of Great Rollright, was convicted of waiting in his vehicle in High Street, Banbury, where waiting is prohibited, at 9.45am on February 1. Fined £75 and told to pay £20 victims' surcharge and £125 costs.

■ **WASIM ALI**, 20, of The Causeway, Banbury, admitted using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour with intent to cause harassment, alarm or distress in Drayton Road, Banbury, on January 12. Fined £300 and told to pay a £30 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **TAFAIL MOHAMMED**, 19, of East Close, Banbury, admitted using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour with intent to cause harassment, alarm or distress in Drayton Road, Banbury, on January 12. Fined £75 and told to pay a £20 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **PAUL HICKS**, 58, of Cotswold Crescent, Chipping Norton, admitted breaching a non-molestation order by texting a woman on September 12 and 19 from Hailey Road, Chipping Norton, and coming within 100 metres of her in Chipping Norton. Fined £300 and ordered to pay a £20 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **MEGAN REILLY**, 18, from Arbury Banks, Chipping Warden, admitted failing to notify the Government of the transfer of a vehicle to a person other than the trader in Chipping Warden on March 1. Fined £66 and told to pay a £20 victims' surcharge and £90 costs.

■ **PETER SIMMONDS**, 26, of High Acres, Banbury, was convicted of failing to notify the Government of the transfer of a vehicle to a person other than the trader in Banbury on December 17 2012. Fined £200 and told to pay £20 victims' surcharge and £90 costs.

■ **MOHAMMED BASHARAT**, 34, of West Street, Banbury, admitted possessing cannabis, a Class-B drug, on September 18 in Banbury. Fined £75 and ordered to pay a £20 victims' surcharge and £45 costs.

■ **PAUL SSEKABUZZA**, 35, of Hightown Gardens, Banbury, was convicted of keeping an unlicensed BMW on a public road, namely Evenlode, Banbury, on March 1. Fined £660, ordered to pay £220 vehicle excise back duty and £90 costs.

■ **HELEN CARVELL**, 25, of Hart Close, Banbury, was convicted of keeping an unlicensed vehicle on a public road, namely Hearthway, Banbury, on March 2. Fined £190 and ordered to pay £20 victims' surcharge and £90 costs.

■ **ANGELO AYALA**, 30, of Portal Drive South, Upper Heyford, admitted using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress in Bicester on August 4. Also admitted failing to comply with a police constable's order to leave and not return to G's Nightclub in Dean's Court on August 4 for 24 hours. Fined £100, a £20 victims' surcharge, and £85 costs.

■ **STEPHEN GOODENOUGH**, 61, of Greenhill, Twyford, admitted drink-driving in Banbury Road, Caversfield, Bicester, on August 3. Had 112mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, above the legal limit of 35mg. Community order made with an alcohol treatment and supervision requirement. Told to pay a £60 victims' surcharge and £85 costs. Banned from driving for 24 months.

■ **KIERAN SCOTT**, 18, of Fiennes Road, Banbury, admitted aggravated vehicle taking in Edward Street, Banbury, on September 1. Admitted failing to stop after an accident and failing to report an accident in Middleton Road, Banbury, on September 1. Also admitted driving without a licence and insurance in Middleton Road, Banbury, on September 1. Community order made and told to do 120 hours of unpaid community work over the next 12 months. Told to pay £300 compensation, a £60 victims' surcharge, and £25 costs. Banned from driving for 12 months.

■ **TAHIR ALI**, 38, of Lidsey Road, Banbury, admitted possession of cannabis in Lidsey Road, Banbury, on May 23. Also admitted possession of cannabis with intent to supply in Banbury on May 23. Fined £400, a £40 victims' surcharge and £450 costs.

■ **JONATHAN BURNS**, 46, of Walterbush Road, Chipping Norton, admitted using threatening words or behaviour to cause harassment, alarm or distress in Oxford on August 19. Fined £75 and ordered to pay £50 compensation, a £20 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

■ **ADRIAN FANNON**, 35, of Evenlode, Banbury, admitted stealing seven garden plant pots and plants worth £175 belonging to Homebase in Banbury on July 11. Also admitted possessing cannabis resin, a Class-B drug, in Banbury on July 11.
Given 12-month conditional discharge and a community order requiring alcohol dependency treatment for three months. Also ordered to pay £87.50 compensation and a £60 victims' surcharge.

■ **JAYMENI MARU**, 29, of Neithrop Avenue, Banbury, admitted dangerous driving on Bridge Street, Banbury, on December 30 last year. Given a community order, requiring 100 hours unpaid work in the next 12 months. Ordered to pay a £60 victims' surcharge, £150 costs and given a 12-month driving ban.

■ **AUSTIN BLACKER**, 23, of Boxhedge Road West, Banbury, admitted possessing ketamine, a Class-C drug, and cathinone derivative, a Class-B drug, in Station Caravan Park, Grimsbury, on August 24. Fined £220 and ordered to pay a £20 victims' surcharge and £85 costs.

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Their menu philosophy has always been to source the most authentic

recipes of classic origin from around the world that collectively create a varied and exciting menu choice and bring new experiences to their customers. The OA takes great pride in preparing these recipes with their sauces, marinades, accompanying breads and desserts in their own kitchen and invest heavily in specialized equipment as well as training their staff to perfect these dishes and serve them with an element of fun.

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When a tribute is 'no pantomime'

By Tim Hughes

HE is the driving force behind one of the world's biggest bands and responsible for some of the best-loved songs in pop history. But Queen's Roger Taylor is now passing on the baton.

The legendary drummer, singer and songwriter has teamed up with bandmate Brian May to put together a group to carry the band's songs into the future – so he doesn't have to.

Called The Queen Extravaganza, members were handpicked via *YouTube* auditions and, Roger admits, are almost as good as the real thing.

"It's been a real voyage for me," he said, while relaxing at home in Surrey.

"Brian and I are very close and both have nothing but fond memories of Queen. And while the band is still going, the extravaganza is a means of playing our music using younger, stronger more flexible musicians to represent us.

"It is not easy to represent Queen, though, and we needed high-calibre musicians."

But, he insists, it is no tribute band. "What I wanted was a band that could represent me and play our music in a brilliant way – but not to look like us or be like us. It is not pantomime, like a tribute band.

Even so, he said the likeness was sometimes uncanny. "The front guy sounds so much like Freddie Mercury, it's hard to believe it's not him."

So would Freddie approve? "Definitely! Brian and I still fly the flag for Queen and we know Freddie would love it. It was all about the music for him. We didn't make our music in the 70s just for it to be successful. It's wonderful people still play it though. It would appear to have a lasting appeal."

For Roger, the aim was not just to preserve the band's music – but its spirit.

He said: "Freddie was at the front but knew every part was essential. It was really democratic, and that's why I am proud to keep it all going. We made music for people to listen to and enjoy and we were unashamedly good at that. It's nice a lot of people enjoy our music.

"A lot of people don't want to be a showman; perhaps they think it's uncool. But Fred crossed that boundary. He was so uncool and people were aghast at the awful things he would wear. But he had a great sense of humour. There's an essential sort of irony and mockery that looked completely ridiculous at the time."

LEFT: The Queen Extravaganza pictured on stage

RIGHT: Queen's Roger Taylor

To Roger's delight, The Queen Extravaganza has proved an instant hit, playing the enduring classics to fans – many too young to have seen the original line-up.

"We've done three tours of the US and Canada, so are really flying," said Roger. "The band were all recruited in North America and the idea was to also put together a British band, but we already have the perfect band. We thought we'd never find another like them."

Roger's contribution to Queen is often overlooked. As well as his big drum sound, he provided backing vocals and wrote some of the band's hits, tunes like *Radio Ga Ga, A Kind of Magic, Heaven for Everyone, Breakthru, The Invisible Man* and *These are the Days of Our Lives*. He also co-wrote the No.1 hits *Under Pressure* and *Innuendo* and the top ten hit *One Vision*.

What are his favourite Queen songs? "I don't get asked that, but I love *Under Pressure, Someone To Love* and *Bohemian Rhapsody* – and, of course, *Crazy Little Thing Called Love*."

He was too modest to bring it up, but Roger has been busy on another project too – a solo album called *Fun on Earth*. The record is his first since 2008s *The Cosmos Rocks*.

"Yes, it has taken five years since I had fun in space, so I've decided to come down to earth," he said.

But it's The Queen Extravaganza that is getting him most excited. "It's going to be a hell of a night. And you'll get the nearest thing to Freddie Mercury you'll ever see."

And how is Roger's counterpart holding up? "He's amazing. He certainly doesn't need any tips from me!"

The Queen Extravaganza play the O2 Academy, Oxford, on Monday.

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SEE ME SMILE Happy, quiet, caring and reliable Oxford lady, 42, 5'2'', simply searching for a tactile, fun and gentle-natured gent, for friendship, lasting happiness and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 142441**

LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Thoughtful Oxford female, 42, 5', medium-build, fair-hair, blue-eyes, smoker, likes swimming, holidays, pubs and meals out, seeks a genuine male. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 122427**

STRIKE FAST Bubbly, blonde, blue-eyed Devizes woman, 42, 5'6'', enjoys listening to music, country walks and more, searching for a nice and genuine guy, to share caring times and the future. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 155233 or send a text to 80360**

FOR STARTERS... Loving, caring Oxford mum, 45, genuine, active, attractive, enjoys theatre, cinema, walks, nights in, seeks similar family man, , funny and kind, for friendship first. Let's see what happens. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114046**

GENUINE PARTNER WANTED! Sincere, loyal, Christian Banbury female, 45, searching for a loving, kind-hearted and honest man, for friendship initially and hopefully a romantic relationship in the future. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 154128 or send a text to 80360**

QUALITY TIMES Sunny, loving, divorced, loyal Swindon girl, 46, 5'3'', average-build, likes restaurants, walks, travelling, looking to find a tactful, endearing male, for love and an honest future together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138116**

ENJOY AND SHARE LIFE Attractive, divorced Melksham lady, 46, 5'5'', red hair, green eyes, grown up children, loves the outdoors, travel, animals and family life, seeking a genuine guy, 40-50, for true romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138266 or send a text to 80360**

OF A GENUINE DESCRIPTION Laid-back Swindon female, 47, still looking for my Mr Right, to share and enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126129**

IT COULD BE US Spiritual, genuine Didcot woman, 47, attractive, fun, have grown up children, likes clubs, cafes, music, films, walking and reading, seeking a caring and optimistic man, for friendship first. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123828 or send a text to 80360**

I NEED A HERO Charming, positive Trowbridge female 48, 5'4'', brunette, fun-loving, likes balance and harmony in her life, searching for that special guy. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145473 or send a text to 80360**

SMOOTH MOVE Slim, blue-eyed Trowbridge female, 49, 5'2'', GSOH, easy to get on with, enjoys nights out, walks and more, searching for an honest, active, interesting man. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109958 or send a text to 80360**

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START AFRESH Friendly, kind-hearted, curvaceous Faringdon woman, 50, 5'7'', enjoys entertaining for family and friends, looking for a life-loving, honest male, for friendship and a fresh start in life. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147608 or send a text to 80360**

I CAN MAKE YOU SMILE Sensitive, loving Abingdon female, 50, brunette hair, good sense of humour, enjoys dancing, music, current afairs, seeking a similar male, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141600**

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly, fun Oxfordshire divorced mum, 52, 5'7'', grown up children, looking for love again and someone to share life with. Is the right man out there for me? **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 798804**

SOMEONE EXACTLY LIKE YOU Caring, lovely, bubbly Bicester lady, 54, looking for a tall, kind, caring and romantic man for a lasting loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 118921 or send a text to 80360**

A DEEP CONNECTION Big, bubbly Swindon lady, 55, black, GSOH, caring, enjoys music, reading, going out & cinema, looking to meet a like-minded white guy, 40-50, kind, loyal and fun, for a true relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115425**

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SHALL WE DANCE? Blonde, blue-eyed Swindon girl, 56, friendly nature, well-travelled and loyal, lover of life, searching for an active, educated man, who appreciates, food, wine and life in general. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110895**

LONELY NOW...CAN YOU HELP? Slim, happy, blue eyed, Swindon female, 56, enjoys caravan holidays, would like to meet a kind, vibrant male, for days out, great conversation and a lasting friendship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 149563 or send a text to 80360**

THAT SPECIAL PERSON Honest, bubbly female, 56, kind, loving, seeks 6ft+ male, for romance, companionship & lots more. Bicester. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110670**

LET'S FIND EACH OTHER Down-to-earth, loving, black Wolverhampton female, 57, 5'4'', seeking a nice man, with GSOH, to enjoy each others interests, travel together and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 148802 or send a text to 80360**

MEANINGFUL TIMES Active, outgoing Trowbridge female, 58, loves cinema, seaside, travelling and animals, would like to meet a man for company leading to a possible relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117215 or send a text to 80360**

NEED THAT SOMEONE SPECIAL Intelligent, attractive, well dressed, 60, widow, enjoys keeping active and swimming, looking for a kind, intelligent, active male, for friendship, possibly more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 151752 or send a text to 80360**

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RELIGHT OUR FIRES Caring, brown-eyed Witney lady, 60, blonde hair, enjoys holidays, cinema, company and much more, searching for a warm-hearted man, to share good times and cuddles. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 146902**

LOVE FOREVER Honest, curvy lady, 60, likes music, walking and being spontaneous, would like to meet a similar male for friendship and a long term relationship **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 151811**

SEEKING THE RIGHT MAN Separated, attractive Witney female, 61, 5'2'', curvy, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128289**

THE LONG TERM Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 61, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100451**

GENUINE AND CARING Oxfordshire widow, 62, 5'6'', slender build, sociable, caring and well-travelled, searching for a genuine, professional guy, non-smoker, for friendship, maybe lasting love. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 466487**

LET'S ENJOY LIFE Vibrant, sincere Witney female, 63, loves meeting people, good conversations, going out & about, walks, theatre, looking for a similar chap, for companionship and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 142189**

COUNTRY WALKS Country-loving lady, early 70s, wishing to meet sincere gentleman, for companionship, to share the good things in life; dining out, places of interest. Golfer, loves animals, GSOH, Marlborough area. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 149564 or send a text to 80360**

SEEKING MY COUNTERPART Kind Devizes woman, 76, 5'6'', GSOH, dog owner, enjoys gardening, caravan holidays, hard crafts and visiting historic sites, would like to meet a male companion, to share good times and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 155443**

HIT THE JACKPOT Sincere Swindon lady, 77, enjoys dancing, pubs lunches, theatre and more, searching for a nice gent, with similar interests, for friendship and perhaps more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145190 or send a text to 80360**

HONEST COMPANY SOUGHT Kind, caring Oxford female, 78, likes country drive, pub lunches, fishing, seeking a tall man, with a good sense of humour, to share life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 143388 or send a text to 80360**

TELL ME ABOUT YOU Caring, considerate male, 28, enjoys sport, music, quiet nights in, drinks out, country walks, would like to meet a similar lady for friendship, leading to a lasting romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 153050 or send a text to 80360**

SHARE SOME TIME Adaptable, upbeat and optimistic Oxford man, 33, would like to find a warm, laid-back girl, for good times and great company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134837**

FRIENDLY COMPANION Friendly Kidlington male, 35, 5'8'', blue eyes, smoker, loves pubs meals and cosy times in, seeking a female, for love and romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141321**

CARING & CONSIDERATE Kind-hearted, active Oxford man, 37, enjoys staying fit, playing sports and fine dining with friends and family, would like to meet a similar female, for companionship and love. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147290 or send a text to 80360**

TIME TO SHARE Lively Oxford male, 39, 5'10'', med build, enjoys motorbikes, clubs, cinema, meals and more, searching for a loving woman, to share friendship and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117999 or send a text to 80360**

EASY TO LOVE Easy-going gent, 41, GSOH, enjoys travelling, music, looking for my life long partner. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 152843 or send a text to 80360**

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BRICK BY BRICK Emotional, intuitive and decent Didcot guy, 42, 5'11'', medium build, enjoys music concerts and dining out, just looking to meet a loyal, caring female, for good times and great company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 154935 or send a text to 80360**

GOOD COMPANIONSHIP Confident, friendly Wantage male, 44, 6'4'', green eyes, likes cooking, sports, cinema, looking to meet a black lady, 26-42, to enjoy good company and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141512 or send a text to 80360**

THE RIGHT STUFF Tender, affable and decent Witney man, 46, would like to find a warm, instinctive lady, for friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132870**

COME CLOSER Active, kind-hearted and upbeat Oxford bloke, 46, 6'3'', looking to find an insightful, liberal woman, for fun and maybe a little romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130080**

FUN AND ADVENTURE Professional, caring male, 46, 5'9'', N/S, own home and car, enjoys days out to the seaside, seeking young-at-heart, honest lady, to spend quality time with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 146399 or send a text to 80360**

THE LIFE OF THE PARTY Shy yet sincere Banbury male, 47, would like to meet an honest, bubbly, faithful woman, for loving times and to share a happy future together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145482 or send a text to 80360**

LOTS TO GIVE Easygoing, reliable, loyal Bicester male, 48, 5'7'', divorcee, varied interests and enjoys the outdoor life, looking for someone, to share life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 143400 or send a text to 80360**

SOMEONE SPECIAL WANTED Interesting, easygoing Thame male 50, GSOH, enjoys music, playing the guitar and cooking, seeking a considerate, thoughtful woman, to share happiness and enjoy each others company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145558 or send a text to 80360**

HOPING TO FIND LOVE Caring, honest Oxford male, 51, non smoker, likes DIY, gardening, walking, keeping fit, seeks caring, honest female, for lasting love and a happy future. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 154616 or send a text to 80360**

LOVE TO HAVE A LAUGH Hardworking Oxford male, 51, 5'7'', brown hair, own flat, likes socialising, cooking, nights in, seeks nice young lady for friendship leading to more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 121027 or send a text to 80360**

LOVE THE ONE YOU'RE WITH Friendly, warm-hearted Abingdon male, 51, good sense of humour, would like to meet a caring, well-matured girl, to enjoy good times together. Is you're looking for true love then get in touch. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115894**

TIME FOR A CHANGE Friendly, expressive and vibrant Kidlington male, 52, with plenty of interests in life, would like to meet a life-loving, interesting lady, to share love, laughter and the future together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114479**

ACCEPT EACH OTHER Easygoing Wantage male, 52, own car, works full-time, likes most sports, would like to meet an outgoing female, for good times leading to more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 135164 or send a text to 80360**

ALL TO LOVE Kind and caring Oxfordshire male, 53, brown hair, green eyes, GSOH, searching for a nice, genuine girl, for friendship first, then maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 461278**

EYE TO EYE Nice gent, 53, enjoys history, coastal walks, architecture, walking, cosy nights in, cooking, DIY, would like to meet a lady for companionship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 152776 or send a text to 80360**

LET'S DO IT Upbeat, friendly man, 54, good sense of humour, into most things, travelling, good foods, looking for love and romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110840**

TAKE CHARGE Bright, humorous and optimistic Banbury man, 55, would like a date with a chatty, active woman, for good times and great company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132836**

SHARING GOOD TIMES Upbeat Burford widower, 59, own cars, works full time, likes days in and out, countryside walks, driving, looking for a similar woman for companionship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117916 or send a text to 80360**

PASSION FLOWER Youthful, friendly Oxford chap, 60, 5'9'', dark hair, enjoys cinema, bowling, active days out and socialising, searching for a loving, happy and loyal woman, to build a lasting relationship with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101122 or send a text to 80360**

MORE IN TIME Self-employed Witney male, 65, loves cinema, theatre, eating out and more, searching for a serious-minded lady, for a loving and supportive relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109413 or send a text to 80360**

LETS SEE IF WE MATCH Young at heart Oxford male, 66, enjoys slow walks, reading and cosy nights in with great conversation, would like to meet an interesting, vibrant woman, for fun, friendship and possibly love. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 153137 or send a text to 80360**

LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Solvent, retired business gent, North Oxfordshire, 67, own home and car etc, with a love of cinema, travel and new adventure, seeks a nice, loyal, feminine lady, for companionship then who knows? **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132140**

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FUN AND LAUGHTER Honest, sensitive and decent Oxford man, 60, would like to find a warm-hearted, genuine, caring woman, to share laughter and enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 145981 or send a text to 80360**

DECISION IS YOURS Honest, easygoing Yorkshire man living in Banbury, 60, 5'6'', slim build, self employed, likes gardening, cooking, cinema, travel, countryside, seeks genuine lady, to share life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 140930 or send a text to 80360**

SO GOOD TOGETHER Genuine, easygoing, happy Abingdon male, 62, own home/car, enjoys dancing, days out and walking the dog, searching for a genuine lady, with an attractive and happy nature. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 466085**

LOVING LIFE Loyal, solvent North Oxfordshire gent, 67, 5'9'', loves soul and motown music, coffee and theatre, searching for an attractive, interesting lady, 50-65, to share and explore interesting times. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 104998**

A FRIEND INDEED Semi-retired Oxford male, 67, 6', slim-build, likes playing bowls, home life, seeking an easygoing female, for good times and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137812**

LET'S SHARE THE GOOD THINGS Well-preserved Oxfordshire male, 68, 5'10'', adequate intelligence, passably handsome, active, inquisitive, with a liberal outlook, seeking a bright, youthful lady, for a loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 108871**

OPEN YOUR HEART Cheerful, slim Banbury male, 70, 5'6'', GSOH, likes sport, walks, animals and cosy times, searching for a decent lady, to settle down with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 104901 or send a text to 80360**

SOUL TO SOUL Fun, talkative and friendly Oxford guy, 78, likes a drink sometimes, just hoping to meet a bubbly, confident lady, to build a loving, lasting relationship with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100937**

SAIL AWAY Sociable, bubbly and happy Bicester female, 41, seeking a chatty, optimistic female, for good times and great company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147448 or send a text to 80360**

HOPE THIS WORKS Cuddly Swindon lady, 48, easygoing and fun to be with, looking for friendship leading to more with a nice, friendly, bubbly woman. Where are you? **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 851817**

FRIENDSHIPS WITH FEMALES Straight, kind Bicester woman, 68, retired and missing the social aspect of work so looking to find some female friends or an established social group, for days out and friendship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 147186 or send a text to 80360**

IT'S YOUR MOVE Outgoing, energetic and warm-hearted Oxford male, 41, likes nights out, pubs, clubs, live music and loads more, simply searching for an outgoing, older man, for fun times, laughter and lots more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 103263 or send a text to 80360**

PUTTING THE SPARK BACK Easygoing, stocky built Oxford guy, 50, blue eyes, likes pubs, cinema, the arts, looking for a similar man 35-60, for companionship and hopefully we'll see where it leads to. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115976 or send a text to 80360**

MAKE A CONNECTION Interesting, friendly Oxford male, 64, varied interests, loves walks, reading, travel and more, seeks sensitive male, similar age, for a loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 857624**

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Full steam ahead as Hanks cruises towards an Oscar

CAPTAIN PHILLIPS (12A, 134 mins) Thriller/Action. Tom Hanks, Barkhad Abdi, Barkhad Abdirahman, Catherine Keener, Michael Chernus, David Warshofsky, Yul Vazquez. Director: Paul Greengrass.

Tom Hanks charts a steady course towards a deserved sixth Oscar nomination for his tour-de-force portrayal of an unlikely hero in Paul Greengrass's nerve-racking thriller.

Based on the book *A Captain's Duty* by Richard Phillips and Stephan Talty, this expertly crafted picture dramatises the true story of an American seaman, whose cargo ship was hijacked by Somali pirates in 2009.

Working from a lean script by Billy Ray, Greengrass demonstrates once again why he is one of the finest directors of nail-biting action.

If you thought the Surrey-born filmmaker had peaked with the adrenaline-pumping thrills of *The Bourne Supremacy* and *The Bourne Ultimatum*, think again.

From the moment the Somalian pirates first appear on the radar, Captain Phillips leaves us feeling seasick with tension until the extraordinary final scene that releases all of those pent-up emotions in a torrent of tears.

Our tears.

Captain Phillips (Hanks) kisses his wife, Andrea (Catherine Keener), goodbye and takes charge of his cargo vessel, the Maersk Alabama, bound for Mombasa, Kenya.

He is aided by a hard-working international crew, including chief mate Shane Murphy (Michael Chernus) and chief engineer Mike Perry (David Warshofsky).

When pirates are spotted off the stern, Phillips telephones the authorities.

"Chances are they're just fisherman," responds a female operator.

"They're not here to fish," retorts the captain with mounting concern.

A tense game of cat and mouse culminates in the pirates boarding the vessel by hooking their makeshift ladder over the side of the boat.

Phillips conceals the crew below deck in the engine room while he takes charge of the situation.

"Nobody get hurt. No al-Qaeda here," promises chief hijacker Muse (Barkhad Abdi) with a sickening smile.

Faced with threats from Muse and his hot-headed compatriot Bilal (Barkhad Abdirahman), Phillips puts himself in harm's way to ensure the safety of every man on board.

When the stand-off spirals out of control, the destroyer USS Bainbridge, captained by Frank Castellano (Yul Vazquez), races to the scene.

Phillips realises the gravity of his predicament and the potentially tragic outcome, telling his captors: "They would rather sink this boat than let you get me back to Somalia."

Captain Phillips is one of the year's best films, blessed with a terrific ensemble cast who rise magnificently to the physical challenges.

Tom Hanks, who plays the lead role in *Captain Phillips*

Picture: PA Photo/Sony Releasing

Hanks is flawless – we can see his mind whirring as he engineers distractions to keep the crew safe – and final gut-wrenching scenes wring him, and us, emotionally dry.

Abdi delivers a striking supporting performance, adding depth and complexity to a role that could easily have been a caricature.

Greengrass's propulsive direction, coupled with Christopher Rouse's hyperkinetic editing and Henry Jackman's heart-pounding orchestral score, leave us scant time to gasp for breath.

CakeWhat's on

Music

FRIDAY: Muskateer, Ruscote Avenue, Banbury: C.Ody. Singer and guitarist. Free admission. 9pm. *01295 269296.*

New Inn, Main Road, Middleton Cheney: Nikki Loy. Sensational singer songwriter performs a one-off special. Free admission. 9pm. *01295 710399.*

The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury: The Road To BodFest'14. Doors 7.30pm with DJ Screamin' Jack Hawkins. 8pm Charlie Leavy; 8.50pm The Method; 9.40pm Half Decent; and 10.25pm Small Time Hero. £5. All profits from tickets sales to the organisation of BodFest'14. Tickets from The Mill. Box office: *01295 279002*

Theatre

The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury:
Oct 24, Lee Hurst *Things That Make You Go Aaarggh!*. This has been cancelled. Please call box office for refunds.
Oct 29, Morgan & West - Time Travelling Magicians. 7.30pm. This prestidigitory pair present a conjuring spectacular. £12, concession £10. 7.30pm.
Oct 30, Dr Phil Hammond. Medicine is jolly serious: life and death, pain and suffering, pills and needles. Wouldn't a trip to the doctor or a rush up to A&E be more fun if it was a game? This campaigning journalist turns medicine into games for you to play with your doctor. 8pm. £15, concession £13.
Box office: *01295 279002*.

New Theatre, George Street, Oxford:
Oct 30-Nov 2, *Le Corsaire*. English National Ballet. 7.30pm, matinees Thu 2pm, Sat 2.30pm. £10-£35. Box office: *0844 871 3020*

Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford:
Oct 25, Comedy Club 4 Kids presents the best comedians from the UK and world circuit doing what they do best … just without the rude bits! 5pm. £8, concession £6.
Until Oct 26, *Ghosts*, Henrik Ibsen, translated by Stephen Unwin. Oswald returns home from Paris to honour his dead father. As his mother begins to feel the presence of ghosts around her, Oswald discovers he is suffering from a mystery illness. Only by uncovering the truth can they both be free. Tue-Wed, Sat 7.30pm, Fri 8pm, matinees Thu, Sat 2.30pm. £26.50-£17.
Box office: *01865 305305*.

Events

SATURDAY:
Little Horrors Murder Mystery: Oxford Castle Unlocked, 44-46 Oxford Castle, Oxford. Turn detective and investigate in a tour of the castle prison, tower, crypt and the prison wing. 10am-5.30pm. £9.25, child £6.95, concession £7.95. Suitable for 5yrs and older. *01865 260666*.

SUNDAY:
Hallowe'en entertainment: Blenheim Palace, Park Street, Woodstock. Ghosts and Goblins lurk at every corner. 10.30am-4.30pm. £12, child £6.50. From 10.30am. *01993 811091*.

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Bideford	11	6	5	0	25	10	23
Poole Tn	11	6	4	1	22	17	22
Stourbridge	11	7	0	4	25	14	21
Cambridge C	11	6	3	2	17	10	21
Arlesey Tn	11	6	2	3	20	15	20
Hungerford Tn	11	6	1	4	18	11	19
Banbury Utd	**12**	**6**	**1**	**5**	**21**	**20**	**19**
St Albans City	11	5	2	4	23	16	17
Hitchin Tn	11	4	3	4	15	11	15
Weymouth	10	4	3	3	16	13	15
Corby Tn	11	4	2	5	13	21	14
Redditch Utd	12	4	1	7	16	35	13
Burnham	10	3	3	4	15	15	12
Chippenham	12	4	0	8	17	23	12
Frome Tn	11	3	3	5	12	20	12
Truro City	12	3	3	6	16	27	12
Bedford Tn	12	3	3	6	20	34	12
Biggleswade	10	2	5	3	14	13	11
St Neots Tn	11	3	0	8	12	18	9
Hinckley Utd	10	1	3	6	9	20	6
AFC Totton	10	2	0	8	14	29	6
Bashley	10	0	2	8	8	26	2

THERE was heartbreak for Banbury United as they were denied another go at Stourbridge by a last-minute goal against the run of play in a competitive first qualifying round tie in the FA Carlsburg Trophy on Saturday.

Stourbridge took the lead against their fellow Calor League Premier Division visitors in the tenth minute, when Ryan Rowe struck home from ten yards.

Banbury came out for the second half with all guns blazing and equalised within three minutes when a cross from the left by Dominic Lawless was parried out by keeper Dean Coleman to Adeyinka Talabi, who netted from five yards.

Stourbridge regained the lead in the 59th minute with a superb shot from distance by Roland Agbor.

Ten minutes from time, Banbury got a second equaliser out of the blue when Dom Lawless struck a shot from outside the penalty area into the far corner of the net.

With four minutes left, Kynan Isaac's shot was deflected by a defender on to a Stourbridge post.

However, United were to be denied a replay when in the final minute Stourbridge broke away and Kayelden Brown had the time to strike home the winner.

Banbury Utd: Bedwell, Cray (Pinto 46), Mbamarah, Bridges, Blossom, Ryan (Abrahams 46), Lawless, Martin, Talabi, Isaac, Fraser-Allen. Subs not used: Morgan, McNulty, Westwood. Attendance: 321.

Stourbridge	**3**
(Rowe 10, Agbor 59, Brown 90)	
Banbury United	**2**
(Talabi 48, Lawless 77)	

Banbury's Adeyinka Talabi

STARS with Claire Petulengro

Service provided by IMS Leeds LS1 8LB. Calls cost 60p per minute at all times

ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19
Some of the signs will be going out of their way to spend time in your company this week. What do they want? They want to find out if you could have a future together as, with the mixed messages you've been sending out, no one really knows where they stand. A setback in your career midweek can turn out to be a blessing if you handle it with maturity. Phone now, I have more predictions for you.
0906 585 4360

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20
This would be a really good time for you to think about going back and completing what you have left undone. You see, you forgot what a perfectionist you are and what you do over the coming days and weeks can make up for the let down you suffered at the beginning of the year. Mars helps you get out of the red and back into the black. Call now. I have a secret to share with you.
0906 585 4361

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20
Journeys need to be made if you are to be able to tick off the long list of things you promised you'd have completed by the end of this month. Other signs will be trying to stop you but you know what needs to be done, so don't let anyone stand in your way. Moves of house and sales of things go particularly well. Ring me to hear why you can afford to be selfish with your plans this weekend.
0906 585 4362

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22
You know you are happy with certain things in your life because you feel good when you are involved with them. Why then Cancer have you not tried to do anything about the events and people who bring you down? If you don't speak up no one will know you are unhappy. Find your voice this week. You have the energy to challenge the impossible. Ring now for support.
0906 585 4363

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22
The past is standing in the way of your future. You can gain the upper hand if you act quickly, but don't let others try to force you to drag your feet or turn a blind eye. It can only cast you in a naive and immature light if you do. Personal relationships get interesting from Thursday when it is imperative you're not afraid to say how you really feel. Call now for a message from the stars.
0906 585 4364

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22
Try not to judge new faces too harshly. You may have met people who were similar in the past, but you have not met them before, so give them a chance to prove to you where their differences lie. Messages from a work contact put an opportunity before you which you thought had passed you by. Life this week is opportunity. Grab it with both hands. Phone me now to delve into your future.
0906 585 4365

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22
I know that things were a little prickly yesterday, but no change comes without a transition period and that's what you're within right now Libra. Make each day count and relish the restrictions which have been lifted. You're about to find you again and I think you're going to like what you see. Give me a ring to hear why this is your year professionally.
0906 585 4366

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21
Stop remembering the past as you'd have liked it to be and take a quick reality check. It will help you plan your next stop in life with far more ease. A break up in your circle brings surprise and makes you realise that things are not always as they seem on the outside. Venus makes you more emotional about a family tiff than you need to be. Ring now for tips on reconciliations.
0906 585 4367

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21
You've been working hard and you still feel as if you're not really getting anywhere. That's not true Sagittarius. You're making plenty of progress, you just have to stop and take in how far you've come, something you've so far neglected to do. Contracts signed at this time form the base for a much better future. Give me a ring now to hear why it's imperative to dress well this week.
0906 585 4368

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19
You must try to be more honest about your feelings Capricorn, as many of you are saying what you think close ones want to hear from you rather than how you actually feel. Tuesday sees you finding your self-confidence and hands you the power to speak from the heart, so use this day for any close talks you want to have. Phone now to hear how legal links must be embraced, not feared.
0906 585 4369

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18
You've come so far this year and yet you continue to fail to give yourself credit for all your hard work and efforts. Please Aquarius, cut yourself some slack. After all, if you don't think you're worth making an effort for then why should anyone else. Sticking to plans midweek can ensure you see someone you've missed. Give me a call to hear which signs you can trust with your secrets.
0906 585 4370

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20
This is a really good week to try to kick any bad habits. You have the power of the stars to help you find longevity for your efforts. Family find you offer a great sense of strength over the coming days, but make sure you keep enough time and energy to live your own life as well Pisces. Give me a call now so I can help you to better accept who you are and what you want from your future.
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3 SERVICES
4 BUSINESS
5 ENTERTAINMENTS
6 HOLIDAYS
7 EDUCATION
8 PUBLIC NOTICES
9 RECRUITMENT
10 MOTORS
11 PROPERTY

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FORD MONDEO LX

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07732 620988

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Honda

HONDA 1.4 CIVIC S

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Honda

HONDA CIVIC 1.6I LS

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07845 824640

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Hyundai

HYUNDAI ACCENT

Silver, 2002, 5 Speed Manual Petrol, C/RL, Alarm, CD, MOT June 14, tax Nov, 98479 miles

07950825540

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HYUNDAI ACCENT CDX

Gold, 2004, 5 spd, manual, petrol, C/RL, alarm, aircon, alloys, CD player, 3m MOT, 2m tax. good runner, minor damage. Regularly serviced. 73000 miles

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01249815128

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land rover

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LEXUS IS22DSE-I

silver/blue, Sep 2009, Genuine mileage under 5000 miles, 1 year tax, new MOT, just serviced

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01869 242683

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MAZDA 3

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07795 906930

£1,745

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MAZDA RX8

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01235 762874

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07543828363

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PEUGEOT 406 GLX

1998 R Reg. Taxed and MOT. FSH. Very good condition for year. Reliable. In blue. Make an offer!114000 miles

07702 612177

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PEUGEOT 406

Tax until December, MOT until July 14, very clean and tidy, electric windows, central locking, alloy wheels, leather interior

07837 906991

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Rover

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01225 767295

£550 ono

ROVER 25

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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SXI

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07885 816540

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Vauxhall

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI

Eco FLEX Design, 2009, 5 door, hatchback. One lady owner, 35,500 miles, metallic green, MOT and tax 11 months. Good condition.

07768 053116 or 01249 750115

£6250

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4I

Blue 16v Design (a/c) Hatchback 5d 1364cc, 2009, Blue, 1364Cc Engine, Petrol, Manual, immobiliser CD player, c/locking, FSH, MOT March 14, Tax Feb 14, air con, half leather, e/m

07581 793446

£4950

VAUXHALL VECTRA

Blue, 2000, 5 Speed Manual Petrol, C/RL, Alarm, Alloys, CD, tax til Feb 14,MOT til June 14, service history, reliable, 99000 miles

07871938070

£500

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA COMFORT

2 litre DTi 2002. Taxed, MOT May 14, dark green, FSH, 148,000 miles. Same owner since 2003. Good condition.

01225 783649

£950

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4

5 door hatchback, silver, 129,000 miles. MOT June 2014, good condition.

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VW

VW POLO

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Slick hatch gives a helping hand

By David Duffy

DEBATE is hotting up over EU suggestions of introducing technology into cars that will prevent them from breaking speed limits.

While some express outrage at the loss of 'freedom', the simple truth is that most modern cars are absolutely rammed with systems that intervene to a greater or lesser extent. And no car illustrates that better than SEAT's first three-door Leon, the SC.

Priced from under £15,500, the Leon SC is extremely well-equipped, with anti-lock braking, electronic stability control and tyre pressure monitoring fitted as standard to all models. Move up to the test model in SE trim and along comes cruise control, hill-hold assist and foglights that follow the road. But it is the addition of some optional equipment that really underlines the advances being made in the family hatchback sector — and the number of driver roles that can be safely handed over to electronics.

A £100 'convenience' pack adds rain-sensing wipers and automatic headlights, and for another £295, a 'driver assist' pack switches the headlights from dip to main beam and back again. The system, which uses a camera mounted on the rear view mirror housing, proved to be slickest that I have yet used and operates so seamlessly that you could trust it to get on with the job without any manual intervention.

Those optional headlights are pretty special in themselves as the Leon is the first family hatchback in the world to have full-LED headlights fitted. The lights also feature a clever function that lifts the beam slightly at motorway speeds, giving an improved view of the road ahead. With a shorter wheelbase, a slightly lower roofline, a more sloped rear hatch, broader rear 'shoulders' and distinct rear three-quarter windows, the coupé-styled SC is surprisingly practical, with exactly the same large boot as the five-door version.

Smooth and refined on the move, with rock-solid build quality, the addition of the 1.6-litre turbodiesel engine with seven-speed automatic gearbox, lifts fuel consumption above the 60mpg mark.

Taut handling and a surprisingly quiet ride make for a thoroughly involving drive. Involvement of an even more tangible kind comes from yet more electronics — lane assist. This uses a camera mounted behind the rear-view mirror to detect lane markings ahead of the car and applies a small amount of steering correction.

If you are feeling tired, the system is a real boon, but if you are wide awake the constant tweaking on the steering can prove a tad irritating. As long as a button exists to turn off these aids, drivers can sit back and enjoy the helping hand.

ROCK SOLID: The Leon SC is quiet and refined on the move

Auto facts

Model: SEAT Leon SC SE 1.6 TDI
Price: £19,440
Ins group: 13 (1-50)
Fuel consumption: (Combined): 72.4mpg
Top speed: 119mph
Length: 422.8cm/166.4in
Width: 181cm/71.2in
Luggage capacity: 13.4 cu ft
Fuel tank capacity: 11 gallons/50 litres
CO_2 emissions: 102g/km
Warranty: Three years/60,000 miles

Wheelsanddeals

- THE animal charity Tiggywinkles has a new supporter in the shape of Toyota GB, who have donated a new Hilux pick-up to help with its work in rescuing and caring for sick, injured or orphaned animals. The new Hilux Double Cab Invincible model will replace another Toyota model that was donated 20 years previously, and has covered thousands of miles in the process. The Hilux Double Cab has been specially adapted for its role, with increased ground clearance and a snorkel exhaust unit that allows it to wade into deep water.

- **BRACKLEY-based motor company APS has been voted Independent Service Provider of the Year by the readers of the *Audi Driver* magazine. The three-man team behind the Buckingham Road firm has won the award eight times, every year they have been in business. The firm offers a wide range of services and products including fault finding and diagnostic work.**

Futurecarnews

Mini gives head-up on technology advances

MINI is planning to launch a head-up display as part of a drive to boost technology in future models.

The display will help the driver to concentrate on what is happening on the road by displaying relevant information right in the driver's line of vision. This can be seen quickly and conveniently without having to take your eyes off the road.

Other innovations in the driver assist systems for the Cowley-built car include video-based speed and distance control, which automatically keeps a safe distance from the vehicle in front, and a speed limit information system, which detects and displays speed limits as they apply to the current section of road.

The digital headlight assist function uses a camera to register oncoming traffic and automatically dips the headlights.

Further systems include collision warning and pedestrian warning, including city braking function, make it easier to avoid dangerous situations, particularly in city traffic.

The Mini parking assist feature offers extra comfort in searching for and using parking spaces, while a reversing camera gives drivers a better view when manoeuvring.

Since its launch, Mini Connected has been leading the market in the area of in-car technology, pioneering access to apps and services to both assist and entertain driver and passengers.

When it comes to the development and configuration of new driver assist systems, the Mini exploits the BMW Group's innovations like the radar-based distance warning device (1972), the world's first on-board computer with exterior temperature display (1980), the first fully-integrated navigation system (1994) and first emergency call system, which was first introduced in 1997.

As early as 2007, interface technology for integrating the Apple iPhone in the Mini operating system was introduced.

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2003	03	**TOYOTA COROLLA 1.6 T3 VVTi**, 5 Door, Dark Green, 2 owners, Alloys, PAS, Electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Aircon, Radio/CD, Good service record, Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt kit, HPI Clear	£2,795
2004	04	**PEUGEOT 206 2.0 GTI BLACK LOCAL CAR,** 3 Door. Approx 64,000 miles excellent service history half leather trim. Air con. alloys Radio/CD remote locking, Electric Windows, Electric mirrors, exceptional condition, fantastic performance sold with a new MOT full service and a new cam belt kit HPI clear	£2,750
2005	05	**MITSUBISHI COLT 1.1 EQUIPPE**, 5 Doors, Silver, Low mileage, Aircon, Sunroof, Alloys, Radio/CD, Remote central locking, Electric windows, Electric door mirrors, PAS, Great little car, Very 'roomy', Lovely condition, Sold with a new MOT, a full service and a full service, HPI Clear.	£2,750
2001	51	**VOLVO C70 CONVERTIBLE**, Silver, Leather interior, Electric hood, Alloys, Electric windows, Electric mirrors, Radio CD, Aircon, etc etc, Excellent condition, Local car, Sold with a new MoT a full service and a new cam belt, HPI clear	£2,495
2001	51	**VW POLO 1.4 MATCH**, Dark Blue, 5 Door, Local car, PAS, Aircon, Central locking, Radio/CD, Electric windows, Very good service record, Nice condition, Sold with a new cambelt a new MOT and a full service, HPI clear.	£2,295
2001	51	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 HDI (DIESEL) BLACK.** 3Door. Full service history. Approximately only 53000 recorded miles. PAS. Aircon. Electric windows. Electric door mirrors. Radio/CD. 12 months RFL only £30. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear.	£1,895
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